

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION AT SOVIET SF CONSULATE

FOL RPT FBI 220711Z JUL 78 SENT ACTION ASSIST ATTORNEY GENERAL
CRIMINAL DIVISION, US SECRET SERVICE, SECSTATE JUL 22, 1978

QUOTE: UNCLAS

DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY AT THE SOVIET
CONSULATE, 2790 GREEN STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, JULY
21, 1978 PROTECTION OF FOREIGN OFFICIALS

FBI, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, ADVISED BY TELETYPE JULY 22, 197
8,

AS FOLLOW:

ON JULY 21, 1978, AT APPROXIMATELY 11:45 A.M., MORE THAN
500 DEMONSTRATORS FROM THE SF BAY AREA GATHERED IN FRONT OF
THE SOVIET CONSULATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF STAGING A DEMONSTRATION
IN SUPPORT OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY, SOVIET DISSIDENT WHO WAS
RECENTLY IMPRISONED IN THE SOVIET UNION. DEMONSTRATION WAS
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SPONSORED BY THE BAY AREA COUNCIL ON SOVIET JEWRY (BACSJ).
THE DEMONSTRATION TOOK PLACE DIRECTLY ACROSS THE STREET, BUT
WITHIN 100 FEET OF THE SOVIET CONSULATE. THE LARGE CROWD,
ALONG WITH THE CONSIDERABLE PRESS COVERAGE EXTENDED THE CROWD
WELL INTO THE STREET IN FRONT OF THE CONSULATE. THE FLOW OF
TRAFFIC WAS GREATLY HINDERED AS A RESULT OF THE DEMONSTRATION,
BUT THE POLICE WERE ON HAND TO KEEP THE TRAFFIC MOVING AS WELL

AS POSSIBLE. THE DEMONSTRATORS CARRIED ANTI-SOVIET AND PRO-SHCHARANSKY SIGNS. SEVERAL PROMINENT MEMBERS FROM THE BAY AREA JEWISH COMMUNITY SPOKE ON BEHALF OF SHCHARANSKY. ALSO, A FEATURED SPEAKER WAS MRS. AVITAL SHCHARANSKY, WIFE OF ANATOLY SHCHARANSKY. THE DEMONSTRATORS CHANTED SLOGANS SUCH AS "LET MY PEOPLE GO" AND "TWO, FOUR, SIX, EIGHT, LET THE JEWS EMIGRATE." THEY USED A LOUD SPEAKER AND BULLHORN FOR WHICH THEY HAD SECURED A POLICE PERMIT. UPON DISPERSING AT APPROXIMATELY 1:15 P.M., SOME OF THE DEMONSTRATORS ATTACHED SIGNS TO THE FENCE OF THE CONSULATE. MANY OTHER DEMONSTRATORS RETRIEVED THESE SO AS NOT TO LEAVE ANY LITTER IN THE AREA. AT ONE POINT DURING THE DEMONSTRATION WHEN MRS. SHCHARANSKY WAS SPEAKING TO THE PRESS, A FAIRLY LARGE CROWD OF DEMONSTRATORS AND PRESS PEOPLE GATHERED ON THE SIDEWALK DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF THE SOVIET CONSULATE.

THE POLICE WERE ON THE SCENE DURING THE ENTIRE DEMONSTRATION WHICH WAS PEACEFUL IN SPITE OF THE LARGE CROWD. THERE WERE NO ARRESTS OR UNRULY INCIDENTS.

FACTS CONCERNING THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED DEMONSTRATION WERE PRESENTED TO AUSA ROBERT D. WARD WHO INDICATED THAT THIS ACTIVITY DID NOT APPEAR TO CONSTITUTE A VIOLATION OF THE PROTECTION OF FOREIGN OFFICIALS STATUTE.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND U.S. SECRET SERVICE LOCALLY WERE ADVISED PRIOR TO THIS DEMONSTRATION. FBI AGENT ON THE SCENE WAS ALLAN M. POWER. SEVERAL SF POLICE UNITS WERE AVAILABLE AND ON THE SCENE AS WELL AS UNIFORMED UNCLASSIFIED

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POLICEMEN. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE SFPD, INTELLIGENCE UNIT, WERE ALSO ON THE SCENE.
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